Meetings of the rest of the SAARC Technical Committee (TCs) under the restructured Integrated Programme of Action are being scheduled.

Obligations for Government servants

*78. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the Fifth Central Pay Commission's report there was also a package under which certain obligations were required to be undergone by the Government servants in order to get the benefit of the revised Pay scale;

(b) whether it is a fact that one of the important obligation was that no extension shall be granted to government servants after the age of superannuation;

(c) in how many cases Government have granted extension in different departments after the acceptance of the report; and

(d) what are the other salient features of the package and what steps Government are contemplating to implement it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING AND DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No Sir. However, the Fifth Central Pay Commission in its report had observed that the Government will appreciate the nexus that the Commission seek to establish between the utility of the public servant to the nation and the payment he receives for his work and its report should be implemented as an integral whole, in its entirety, as complete package.

(b) The Pay Commission recommended for increasing the age of retirement of Central Government employees to sixty years after taking into consideration variety of factors which include total ban on extension in service except for some special categories: The

Government while implementing the recommendation after its acceptance, amended Fundamental Rule 56 stipulating that no extension shall be granted after superannuation except to a Government servant dealing with budget work or working as a full time member of a Committee which is to be wound up shortly for a period not exceeding three months and to a specialist in medical or scientific fields up to 62 years on case to case basis in public interest.

(c) Rules provide for grant of extension only to specified categories as mentioned in reply to (b) above. Since different Ministries/Departments are competent to exercise the powers conferred under the rules, no data in this regard is centrally available in this department. However, no extension beyond the age of superannuation has been granted by this Department by relaxing the provisions of the rule.

(d) Restructuring of the Government office, openness in Govt. working, performance appraisal, promotion policy, flexible complementing scheme, transfer policy, work force size control, age of superannuation, voluntary retirement, pensionary benefits, family pension, *ex-gratia* on death, commutation of pension, six days week etc. are some of the other salient features of the package contained in the Pay Commission's Report. Some of these measures have been accepted with or without modification while the others were not accepted after detailed consideration.

Small scale Industries in Madhya Pradesh

*79. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of small scale Industries at present in the State of Madhya Pradesh, region-wise;

(b) whether Government have taken new initiatives to encourage SSI units set up in the backward and tribal regions of Madhya Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof;